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14SL-AC18552 - GUDRUN I GRACE V PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES. LL (E-CASE)

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11/13/2014

**Notice of Court Hearing Sent** 

**Hearing Scheduled** 

Scheduled For: 12/03/2014; 9:00 AM; JUDY PREDDY DRAPER; St Louis County

Hearing Continued/Rescheduled

Hearing Continued From: 11/26/2014; 9:00 AM Hearing

10/28/2014

Corporation Served

Document ID - 14-ASOS-796; Served To - PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES LLC; Server - ; Served Date - 20-OCT-14; Served Time - 13:27:15; Service Type - Special Process Server; Reason Description - Served

**Notice of Service** 

Notice of return service.

Filed By: RICHARD ANTHONY VOYTAS Jr.

On Behalf Of: GUDRUN I GRACE

10/17/2014

Summ Req-Assc Pers Serv

Request for Appointment of Special Process Server Filed.

Summ issd- Assc Pers Serv O/S

Document ID: 14-ASOS-796, for PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES LLC. Summons Attached in PDF Form for Attorney to Retrieve from Secure Case. Net and Process for Service.

Associated Entries:11/13/2014 - Hearing Continued/Rescheduled

Scheduled For: 11/26/2014; 9:00 AM; JUDY PREDDY DRAPER; St Louis County

Hearing Continued/Rescheduled

Hearing Continued From: 10/22/2014; 9:00 AM Hearing

Summons Withdrawn

Document ID - 14-ASOS-533; Served To - PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES LLC; Server - ; Served Date - 17-OCT-14; Served Time - 11:25:48; Service Type - Special Process Server; Reason Description - Recalled for

Re-Issuance

**Notice of Service** 

Return summons lost non serve.

Filed By: RICHARD ANTHONY VOYTAS Jr.

On Behalf Of: GUDRUN I GRACE

**Motion Special Process Server** 

Request for SPS.

Filed By: RICHARD ANTHONY VOYTAS Jr.

On Behalf Of: GUDRUN I GRACE

Alias Summons Requested

MOtion for alias summons; Exhibit 1.

Filed By: RICHARD ANTHONY VOYTAS Jr.

09/15/2014

Hearing Scheduled

Associated Entries:10/17/2014 - Hearing Continued/Rescheduled

Scheduled For: 10/22/2014; 9:00 AM; JUDY PREDDY DRAPER; St Louis County

Hearing Continued/Rescheduled

Hearing Continued From: 09/17/2014; 9:00 AM Hearing

Motion for Continuance

Motion to continue.

Filed By: RICHARD ANTHONY VOYTAS Jr.

On Behalf Of: GUDRUN I GRACE

08/20/2014 Motion for Sub of Counsel

Withdrawal as Counsel - Nathan Bader.

Filed By: NATHAN KENNEDY BADER
On Behalf Of: GUDRUN I GRACE

08/15/2014 Hearing Scheduled

Associated Entries:09/15/2014 - Hearing Continued/Rescheduled

Scheduled For: 09/17/2014; 9:00 AM; JUDY PREDDY DRAPER; St Louis County

Hearing Continued/Rescheduled

Hearing Continued From: 08/20/2014; 9:00 AM Hearing

Motion for Continuance Motion to continue.

Filed By: NATHAN KENNEDY BADER On Behalf Of: GUDRUN | GRACE

07/10/2014 Summons Issued-Associate

Document ID: 14-ASOS-533, for PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES LLC.

**Hearing Scheduled** 

Associated Entries:08/15/2014 - Hearing Continued/Rescheduled

Scheduled For: 08/20/2014; 9:00 AM; JUDY PREDDY DRAPER; St Louis County

07/07/2014 Filing Info Sheet eFiling

Filed By: NATHAN KENNEDY BADER

Summ Reg-Assc Pers Serv

Request for Appointment of Process Server.

Filed By: NATHAN KENNEDY BADER

On Behalf Of: GUDRUN I GRACE

Pet Filed in Associate Ct

Petition.

Judge Assigned

**DIVISION 41 WEDNESDAY** 

Case.net Version 5.13.4.11

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Released 07/25/2014



## IN THE 21ST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

	<u> </u>	
udge or Division: UDY PREDDY DRAPER	Case Number: 14SL-AC18552	
laintiff/Petitioner: EUDRUN I GRACE	Plaintiff's/Petitioner's Attorney/Address or Pro Se's Address/Telephone Number: RICHARD ANTHONY VOYTAS Jr. 1 NORTH TAYLOR AVENUE SAINT LOUIS, MO 63108 (314) 932-1068	
lature of Suit: .C Other Tort	Date, Time and Location of Court Appearance: 26-NOV-2014 09:00 AM DIVISION 41 WEDNESDAY ST LOUIS COUNTY COURT BUILDING 7900 CARONDELET AVE CLAYTON, MO 63105	
		(Date File Stamp)
Summons for Person	al Service Outside the State of M	issouri
	Associate Division Cases)	**************************************
he State of Missourito: PORTFOLIO RECOVERY	ASSOCIATES LLC	
Alias:		
	TATION SERVICE COMPANY	
	AMERICA CENTER 16th FL	
	r Main Street ND, VA 23219	
above, to answer the aller attached. If you fail to a against you for the relief SPECIAL NEEDS: I	to appear before this Circuit Court, Associate Divisi gation in the petition filed by the above-named Plain ppear at the time and place stated in this summons, demanded in the petition. If you have special needs addressed by the American	ntifi/Petitioner, a copy of which is judgment by default will be taken as With Disabilities Act, please
	ircuit Clerk at 314-615-8029, FAX 314-615-8739 or vance of the court proceeding.	TTY at 314 615-4567, at least
ST. LOUIS COUNTY Date		Clerk
Further Information: PM		
	r's or Server's Affidavit of Service	
Note to serving officer: Service must not be made les appear in court.	s than ten days nor more than sixty days from the date	the Detendant/Respondent is to
I certify that:  1. I am authorized to serve process in civil actions w	ithin the state or territory where the above summons we	as served
2. My official title is	of County,	
3. I have served the above summons by: (check one	)	(perce).
	py of the petition to the Defendant/Respondent.	
	of the petition at the dwelling place or usual abode of t a person of the Defendant's/Respondent's family over	
(for service on a corporation) delivering a corporation	copy of the summons and a copy of the petition to(name)	(title).
other (describe)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Served at	· (	(address)
in County,		ate) at (time).
	······································	,

Printed Name of Sheriff or Server

Signature of Sheriff or Server

# Case: 4:14-cv-01942-RWS Doc. #: 1-1 Filed: 11/19/14 Page: 4 of 11 PageID #: 7

	authoriz for out	of the control of the	court of which affi court of which aff minister oaths in t officer)	
Summons Fees, if appl	cable			Signature and Title
Summons \$				•
Non Est \$				
Mileage \$	( miles @	\$	per mile)	
Total \$				
	See the following page for direct	ons to cl	erk and to officer	making return on service of summons.

#### **Directions to Clerk**

Personal service outside the State of Missouri is permitted only on the conditions set out in Rule 54. The clerk should insert in the summons the names of only the Defendant/Respondent or Defendants/Respondents who are to be personally served by the officer to whom the summons is delivered. The summons should be signed by the clerk or deputy clerk under the seal of the court and a copy of the summons and a copy of the motion and/or petition for each Defendant/Respondent should be mailed along with the original summons to the officer who is to make service. The copy of the summons may be a carbon or other copy and should be signed and sealed in the same manner as the original but it is unnecessary to certify that the copy is a true copy. The copy of the motion and/or petition may be a carbon or other copy and should be securely attached to the copy of the summons but need not be certified a true copy. If the Plaintiff/Petitioner has no attorney, Plaintiff's/Petitioner's address and telephone number should be stated in the appropriate field in the summons. This form is not for use in attachment actions. (See Rule 54.06, 54.07 and 54.14)

#### Directions to Officer Making Return on Service of Summons

A copy of the summons and a copy of the motion and/or petition must be served on each Defendant/Respondent. If any Defendant/Respondent refuses to receive the copy of the summons and motion and/or petition when offered to him, the return shall be prepared to show the offer of the officer to deliver the summons and motion and/or petition and the Defendant's/Respondent's refusal to receive the same.

Service shall be made: (1) On Individual. On an individual, including an infant or incompetent person not having a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion and/or petition to the individual personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and motion and/or petition at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of the family over 15 years of age, or by delivering a copy of the summons and motion and/or petition to an agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (2) On Guardian. On an infant or incompetent person who has a legally appointed guardian, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion and/or petition to the guardian personally; (3) On Corporation, Partnership or Other Unincorporated Association. On a corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, by delivering a copy of the summons and motion and/or petition to an officer, partner, or managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the Defendant/Respondent with the person having charge thereof or by delivering copies to its registered agent or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process; (4) On Public or Quasi-Public Corporation or Body. On a public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, to the chief executive officer in the case of any public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body or to any person otherwise lawfully so designated.

Service may be made by an officer or deputy authorized by law to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where such service is made.

Service may be made in any state or territory in the United States. If served in a territory, substitute the word "territory" for the word "state."

The officer making the service must swear an affidavit before the clerk, deputy clerk, or judge of the court of which the person is an officer or other person authorized to administer oaths. This affidavit must state the time, place, and manner of service, the official character of the affiant, and the affiant's authority to serve process in civil actions within the state or territory where service is made.

Service must not be made less than ten days nor more than sixty days from the date the Defendant/Respondent is to appear in court. The return should be made promptly, and in any event so that it will reach the Missouri Court within 30 days after service.

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY STATE OF MISSOURI ASSOCIATE DIVISION

GUDRUN I. GRACE )	
Plaintiff, )	•
)	Cause No.
v. )	Division
PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC )	•
Serve at:  Corporation Service Company  Bank of America Center, 16 <sup>th</sup> Floor  1111 East Main Street  Richmond, VA 23219	
Defendant. )	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

#### **PETITION**

COMES NOW, Plaintiff, Gudrun I. Grace, ("Plaintiff") and for her Petition states as follows:

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1. This is an action for statutory damages brought by an individual consumer for violations of the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. ("FDCPA").
  - 2. Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

#### **JURISDICTION**

3. This Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's FDCPA claims under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) because the illicit collection activity was directed at Plaintiff in St. Louis County, Missouri. Venue is also proper in St. Louis County, Missouri for this reason.

#### **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff is a natural person currently residing in St. Louis County, Missouri. Plaintiff is a "consumer" within the meaning of the FDCPA. The alleged debt Plaintiff owes arises out of consumer, family, and household transactions.
- 5. Defendant Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC ("Defendant") is, upon information and belief, a foreign limited liability company with its principal place of business located in Norfolk, Virginia.
- 6. Defendant engages in business, the principal purpose of which is the collection of debts in Missouri and nationwide, and it regularly attempts to collect debts alleged to be due another.
- 7. Defendant is engaged in the collection of debts from consumers using the mail and telephone. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by the FDCPA. 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

#### **FACTS**

- 8. Defendant's collection activity of which Plaintiff complains occurred within the previous twelve (12) months.
- 9. Defendants' collection efforts consisted of telephone calls to Plaintiff's cell phone.
  - 10. Defendant's calls to Plaintiff's cell phone began in March 2014.
- 11. Defendant called Plaintiff multiple times a week in an attempt to collect the alleged debt.
  - 12. Plaintiff incurred charges for Defendant's calls.

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BOOK OF STREET

- 13. On or about April 12, 2014, Defendant called Plaintiff's cell phone and told her it was going to initiate a lawsuit against her and then accused and chastised her for purposefully running up debts and not paying them.
- 14. Defendant told Plaintiff in sarcastic and harassing fashion, "What do you do, shop in the mall, run up debts and not pay them?"
- 15. The alleged debt, in reality, is thirteen (13) years old and is time-barred. Thus, Defendant was trying to blatantly manipulate Plaintiff into paying a time-barred debt using the litigation scare tactics.
  - 16. In subsequent calls, Defendant continued to threaten Plaintiff with litigation.
- 17. Additionally, Defendants either knew or should have known that the debt did not even belong to Plaintiff.
- 18. Unbeknownst to Plaintiff, her deceased husband had opened up an account with the original creditor. At all times relevant, the account belonged to Plaintiff's husband and not to Plaintiff.
- 19. Plaintiff never signed an account agreement or asked to be added as a cardholder with respect to the underlying debt.
- 20. Plaintiff never agreed in any fashion to be responsible for paying the underlying debt.
- 21. Following Plaintiff's husband's death, the debt was forgiven as demonstrated by a 2002 1099 tax form, yet Defendant was still attempting to collect the forgiven debt in 2014.
- 22. Plaintiff decided to hire an attorney to represent her with respect to the debt Defendant was attempting to collect.

- 23. On April 18, 2014, Plaintiff called Defendant to obtain some information about the nature of the alleged debt and to inform Defendant that she was represented by counsel.
- 24. During this call, Defendant told Plaintiff that it did not know whether Plaintiff would be sued on the debt.
- 25. While this statement backed off of Defendant's earlier threats of litigation, it was still false and misleading because Defendant knew with certainty that it could not sue Plaintiff and simply should have told this to Plaintiff.
- 26. During the call, Plaintiff provided her attorney's name and number and told

  Defendant that the attorney represented her on the debt Defendant was trying to collect.
- 27. Defendant failed to cease communication with Plaintiff and stop its collection efforts once it learned that she was represented by counsel.
- 28. Specifically, Defendant told Plaintiff that Plaintiff, not her attorney, would need to handle the dispute of the debt.
- 29. Defendant indicated that it would send future correspondence about the debt and the dispute to Plaintiff, not her counsel.
- 30. Defendant should have simply taken Plaintiff's counsel's name and number and stopped communicating with Plaintiff.
- 31. Plaintiff never entered into any agreement whereby he consented to arbitrate disputes with Defendant.
- 32. Defendant's collection attempts have caused Plaintiff to incur actual damages including but not limited to anxiety, frustration, and worry.

#### **COUNT I: VIOLATION OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT**

33. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs.

- 34. In its attempt to collect the alleged debt from Plaintiff, Defendant has committed violations of the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. 1692 et. seq., including, but not limited to, the following:
  - Using false, deceptive and misleading tactics in order to collect the debt. 15
     U.S.C. § 1692e.
  - b. Continuing to communicate with Plaintiff after discovering that Plaintiff was represented by an attorney with respect to the alleged debt and while also knowing such attorney's name and phone number. 15 U.S.C. § 1692c.
  - c. Engaging in deceptive, harassing, and unfair collection tactics. 15 U.S.C. § 1692d-f.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that judgment be entered against Defendant for:

- A. Judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA;
- B. Actual damages;
- C. Release of the alleged debt;
- D. Statutory damages, costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692(k); and
- E. For such other relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

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## **VOYTAS & COMPANY**

/s/ Richard A. Voytas, Jr.

RICHARD A. VOYTAS, #52046 Voytas & Company 1 North Taylor Ave. St. Louis, Missouri 63108 Phone: (314) 932-1068